

THE GREATEST CHALLENGE ON EARTH

Mobil

Silver Plough Final 1989

1989 New Zealand
Ploughing Championships
Friday 12 May —
Stubble Ploughing
Saturday 13 May —
Grassland Ploughing

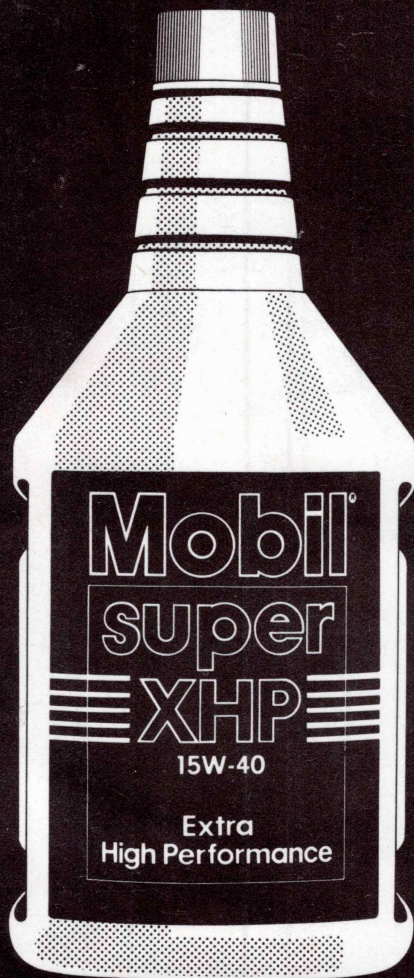
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1989 SILVER PLOUGH

**1989
MOBIL SILVER PLOUGH
FINAL**



PROGRAMME

**Hosted by the Rakaia Ploughing Match
Association**

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MOBIL MESSAGE

The Mobil Silver Plough is a tradition that reaches back to 1956 when the first national ploughing championship was held in this country. Then, as now, the contest serves as a qualification for entry into the world championship. It is with much pleasure that we approach our 34th year of sponsorship of this unique sporting event.

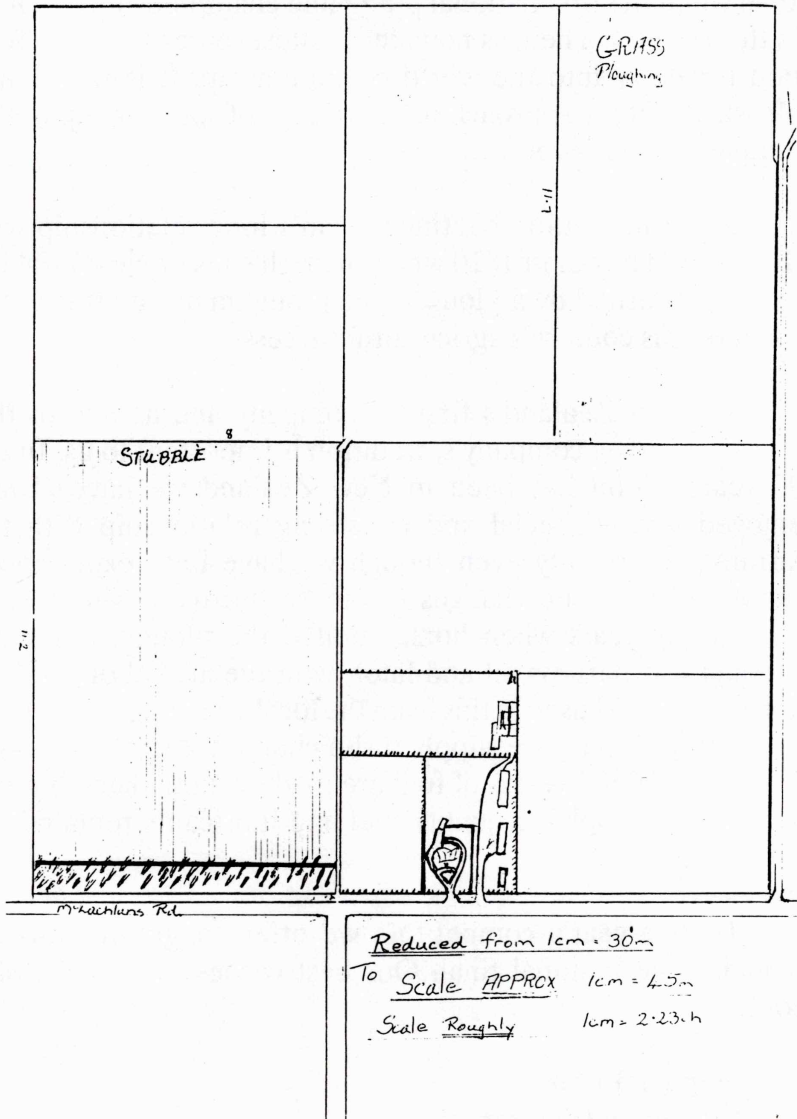
The competition continues man's long relationship with the soil and began in 1820 when the rich soils of New Zealand were first turned by a plough. The ploughman's craft is at the heart of this country's agricultural success.

As New Zealand's first oil company and as one of this country's oldest company's, tradition is important to us. In the 93 years Mobil has been in New Zealand we have always enjoyed a very special and rewarding relationship with the farming community even though we have both experienced rapid and dramatic changes to our respective businesses. In those early years when horses pulled the plough, our main product was harness oil and later, with the arrival of tractors, petrol was purchased in tins from the local store and carted back to the farm. Today we supply turbo charged tractors with synthetic oil and deliveries of fuel are made with tankers, but our business of supplying quality fuel and lubricants remains unchanged.

To this year's competitors we offer congratulations on reaching the national final. Our best wishes for a successful contest.

Stephen Pryor
Managing Director
Mobil Oil New Zealand Limited.

GROUND PLAN



WELCOME

The Rakaia Ploughing Association members welcome everyone to this Mobil Silver ploughing final.

To the ploughmen and their families and friends who have travelled so far to be with us, we hope you enjoy your stay.

For the people from Rakaia and surrounding areas we welcome you and hope you will enjoy the range of skills demonstrated by the competitors and crafts folk.



THANK YOU

The Rakaia PMA extend their sincere thanks to all firms, individuals, carrying and other businesses who have contributed and helped the funds by donations and voluntary work.

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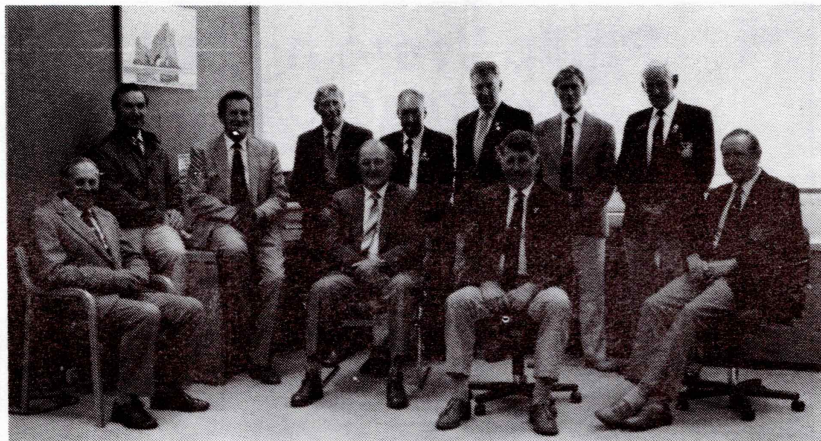
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Left to right back row: I. Miller, B. Wills, J. C. Kyle, J. S. Rawlinson, R. Lukies, A. Wallace, L. L. Carpenter

Left to right seated: I. M. Jordan, R. M. Kingsbury, N. J. Rowe, J. B. Blair

NZ PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION

Executive Committee. —

President: Mr J. Rawlinson, Methven

Senior Vice President: Mr I. Miller, Timaru

Junior Vice President: Mr B. Wills, Reporoa

Immediate Past President: Mr N. Rowe,
Palmerston North

Secretary: Mr R. M. Kingsbury, Wakanui, Ashburton

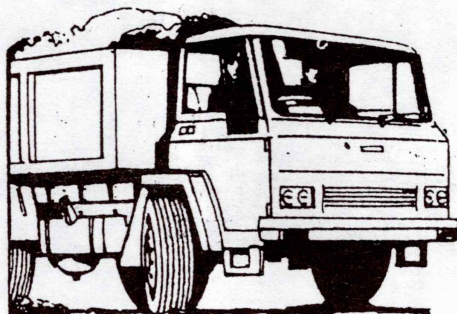
Patron: Mr J. A. Hazlett

Committee:

Mr I. B. Blair, Outram; Mr L. L. Carpenter, Christchurch;
Mr J. M. Jordan, Blenheim; Mr J. C. Kyle, Timaru;
Mr R. Lukies, Carterton; Mr K. Taylor, Clinton, A. Wallace,
Cambridge

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

It gives me great pleasure as president of the NZPA this year to welcome all ploughmen, their wives and families, judges, sponsors and supporters to this, the 34th New Zealand Mobil Silver Plough Championships.

The members and supporters of the Rakaia Ploughing Match Association have put in many hours of hard work to try and make this a successful occasion, and I commend them most highly for their efforts.

To our major sponsors for their years of dedication to this contest, Medallion and other sponsors, please accept my thanks, because without your continued support we would not be here today.

A sincere vote of thanks must be accorded to Mr and Mrs Owen McLachlan and family for the amount of work in planning their crop rotations, and allowing us to transform the farm into the spectacle it is today, despite the adverse drought conditions we are just coming through.

I am confident the ploughing you will see here over the next two days will be equal to world contest standards. New Zealand has held its head high in previous world contests, especially locally with the late Alan Magson of Rokeby, Rakaia having been placed runner-up to the world champion in France in 1961.

This year the New Zealand Ploughing Association in conjunction with the sponsors, have departed from the traditional 22 ploughmen and have included a 23rd contestant in this contest. This is for a ploughman who has never before ploughed in a New Zealand final, and I wish him every success.

Finally I must thank all my executive members, my secretary, and members of the Rakaia Ploughing Match Association for the work they have done for this contest and wish all ploughmen good ploughing, and may the best man win.

**John Rawlinson,
NZPA President, 1989**

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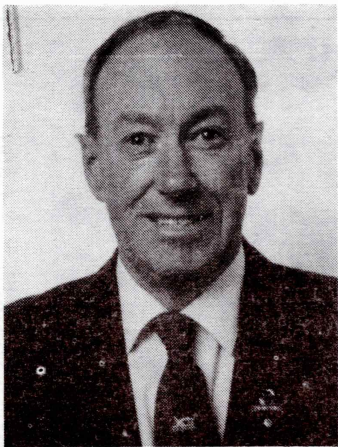
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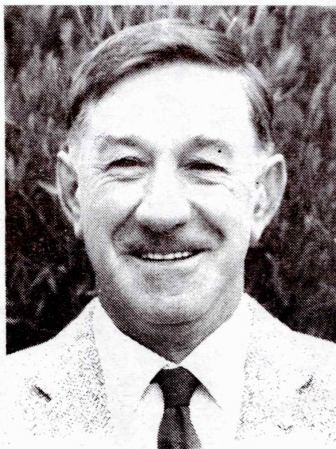
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MR J. RAWLINSON
President, New Zealand
Ploughing Association



MR R. M. KINGSBURY
Secretary, New Zealand
Ploughing Association



MR L. BREEDING
President, Rakaia
Ploughing Association

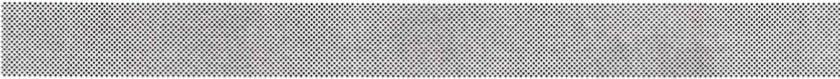


MR J. DAVISON
Secretary, Rakaia
Ploughing Association



RAKAIA PMA COMMITTEE

Left to Right standing: W. Redmond, N. Copland, R. Quin, G. Smith, R. Hay, O. McLachlan, A. Begg.
Left to right kneeling: J. Davison, J. Rawlinson, L. Breeding, J. Stewart



RAKAIA PLOUGHING MATCH ASSOCIATION INC.

OFFICIALS

Patron: C. R. Maw

Life Members: W. Holmes, D. J. Stewart, A. J. Breeding

Immediate Past President: N. Copland

President: L. A. Breeding

Senior Vice President: A. D. Begg

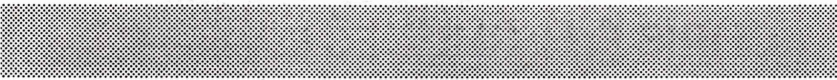
Junior Vice President: O. McLachlan

Secretary: J. Davison

Auditor: D. T. Duncan

Committee:

A. J. Breeding, D. Steele, O. McLachlan, L. A. Breeding,
T. H. Blackley, L. McLachlan, W. E. L. Oakley, J. Davison,
D. Sargent, D. J. Stewart, W. A. Hood, J. Rawlinson,
A. R. Johnston, A. D. Begg, N. Copland, J. D. Stewart,
W. Redmond, B. Smith, R. Quin, C. McFall, J. McFall,
G. Smith, R. Langdon, R. Kingsbury.





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PROGRAMME & TIMETABLE

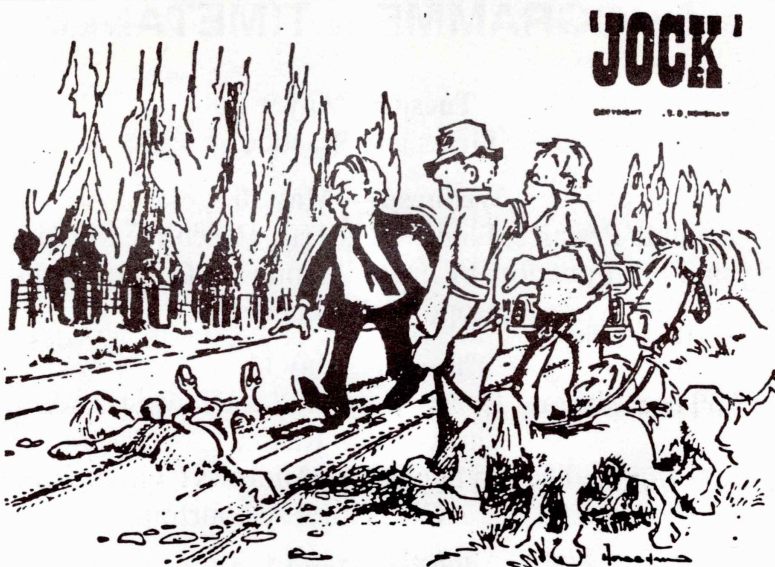
Tuesday, May 9
Grassland Practice

Wednesday, May 10
Stubble Practice, Ladies' Bus Trip, Executive Meeting
5 pm: Ford Function, by invitation only on O. McLauchlan's property. Barbecue.

Thursday, May 11
9.30 am: Mayoral Reception and Plot Draw, St Andrews Church Hall, Rakaia
11.00 am: Dedication Service, St Andrews Church, Rakaia
8.00 pm: AGM, Hotel Ashburton

Friday, May 12
9.45 am: Ploughmen assemble for briefing
10.00am: Ploughmen parade to plots
10.30 am: Ploughing commences
10.50 am: Judging Opening Splits
11.20 am: Ploughing restarts
2.00 pm: Ploughing finishes
2.15 pm: Ploughmen parade from plots
Friday evening: Mobil Social Function

Saturday, May 13
9.45 am: Ploughmen assemble for briefing
10.00 am: Ploughmen parade to plots
10.30 am: Ploughing starts
10.50 am: Judging Opening Splits
11.20 am: Ploughing restarts
2.00 pm: Ploughing finishes
2.15 pm: Ploughmen parade from plots
3.30 pm: Ploughing winners trophy presentations
6.15 pm: Social Hour Hotel Ashburton
7.15 pm: Dine & Dance Hotel Ashburton. Ticket only



"... 'e could head, 'e could hunt, 'e could lead, 'e could just about talk to yer ... but if you've got yer chequebook, mate, I think I can stand the grief!"

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1989 CONTEST OFFICIALS

Head Stewards: I. M. Jordan, R. Lukies, I. B. Blair

Starter and Timekeepers: L. L. Carpenter and P. F. Wood

Parade Marshall: J. C. Kyle and J. D. Stewart

Points Compiler: M. C. Patterson

JUDGES. —

Panel A:

A. J. Wallace, A. Prendergast, J. D. Gibson

Panel B:

B. B. Wills, P. F. Dixon, G. A. Matheson

Reserve Judges:

N. J. Rowe, B. Smith, K. J. Taylor

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THE NEW ZEALAND PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION (INC.)

The New Zealand Ploughing Championship is sponsored by Mobil Oil New Zealand Ltd with whom the NZPA maintains the closest liaison in the organisation of the contest each year.

The rules and conditions of entry are drawn up by the NZPA and they are based on the rules applicable to the World Ploughing Contest, which is held in a different country each year.

The New Zealand Contest is under the control of the NZPA and it appoints each year an association to stage the final under the jurisdiction of the NZPA.

Applications are called for each year from financial affiliated organisations desirous of conducting a Qualifying Event. Twenty-three of these events are held throughout the country each year and the winners participate in the final. The winner of the final is then sent to represent New Zealand in the World Ploughing Contest, the New Zealand Association paying the travelling expenses. There are cash prizes for the remaining four of the first five placings in the final and for the first and second placings in each qualifying event. Free fuel and oil is supplied by the sponsors to all tractors competing in the final.

The NZPA is affiliated with the World Ploughing Organisation which has its headquarters in England and to whom each affiliated country pays an annual subscription.

The WPO controls the world contest each year. It has a board of directors composed of one representative from each affiliated country. The board formulates the rules and the general policies for the world activities of the organisation.

At the present time the NZPA is represented on the board by Mr I. B. Blair and it is hoped we will be able to have representation at board meetings overseas each year. This is important and is the only way of ensuring that New Zealand can take part in the framing of WPO policies affecting national contests throughout the world.

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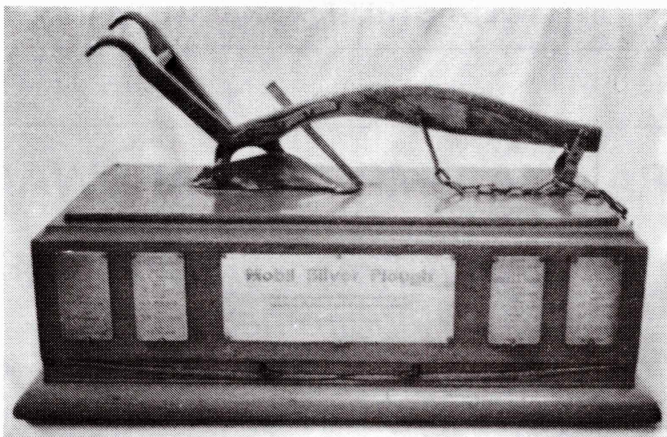
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THE MOBIL SILVER PLOUGH



The New Zealand Plough Association's activities are controlled by the executive committee comprising representatives from active ploughing interests throughout the country. Its members give their services voluntarily.

The Mobil Silver Plough awarded to the New Zealand winner is modelled on an antique plough, the first ever used in the Dominion. It fulfils the wish of the first man to plough the first furrow in New Zealand's soil.



"The name that keeps cropping up"

Grain & Seed Merchants

Wish the organisers of the Silver Plough a successful match

*We wish the local competitors Alan Begg, Nevill Copland,
Alan Redmond, Richard Quin and John Davison all the
success they deserve.*

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On that historic Wednesday, May 3, 1820, the missionary, the Rev J. G. Butler, wrote in his diary: "I trust that this auspicious day will be remembered with gratitude and its anniversary kept by ages yet unknown."

At Keri Keri, in the Bay of Islands, he had that day walked behind the team of six bullocks drawing that first plough.

The ploughing trophy, the Mobil Silver Plough, is an exact replica of the plough he used, which is preserved in the Old Colonists' Museum in Auckland. With the addition of a ploughshare and a couple of inches of coulter it would still be capable of turning a furrow after the intervening 140 years.

A facsimile of the page from the Rev Butler's dairy is mounted on the kauri plinth which supports the silver model of that first plough.

The sponsors of the national contest were able to locate the plough and the dairy entry with the help of the Turnbull Library. Photographs were despatched to the Sheffield silversmiths, Walker and Hall Ltd, and their craftsmen produced the model in oxidised silver.

The wooden plinth on which the model is mounted has a strong association with early New Zealand. Cut from a kauri pillar from the 80-year-old building of J. B. McEwan, in Wellington, it most probably came from the huge kauri forests of the north that the Rev Butler knew, and are no more today.

Mr E. Mervyn Taylor, distinguished wood engraver and an authority on Maori art and legend, engraved the plates and carved the frieze at the base which incorporates the agricultural tools of the Maori — the ko and the pinaki.

The ploughmen displaying their craft today can with satisfaction recall the final words of the Rev Butler: "Every heart seemed to rejoice on this occasion — I hope it will still continue to increase and in a short time produce an abundant harvest."

The New Zealand Champion Ploughman each year retains in his possession a miniature of the trophy which was first competed for at Oamaru on July 28, 1956.

SILVER PLOUGH WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP

<u>NZ Champion and runner-up</u>	<u>Event Location</u>	<u>World contest competed</u>
1956 – J. C. BROOKER, Hawarden	Papakaio	England 1956
1957 – R. J. HEENAN, Winton	Lincoln	USA 1957
1958 – R. M. KINGSBURY, Ashburton	Invercargill	Germany 1958
1959 – S. M. ALLISON, Milton	Hastings Northern	Ireland 1959
1960 – B. J. McPHEDRAN, Timaru	Timaru	Italy 1960
1961 – H. A. MAGSON, Rakaia	Taieri	France 1961
1962 – W. A. SIMPSON, Oamaru	Invercargill	Holland 1962
1963 – C. E. REID, West Melton	Rotorua	Canada 1963
1964 – E. J. CROY, Ashburton	Templeton	Austria 1964
1965 – H. A. WALKER, Edendale	Rakaia	Norway 1965

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JOHN DEERE

NZ Champion and runner-up	Event location	World contest competed
1966 – S. M. ALLISON, Milton – I. B. BLAIR	Gore	New Zealand 1967
1967 – I. B. BLAIR, Outram	Lincoln	Rhodesia 1968
1968 – A.J. WALLACE, Cambridge	Marlborough	Yugoslavia 1969
1969 – S. M. ALLISON, Milton	Masterton	Yugoslavia 1969
1970 – K. J. TAYLOR, Clinton	Taieri	Denmark 1970
1971 – A. J. WALLACE, Cambridge	Timaru	England 1971
1972 – J. C. KYLE, Timaru	Rakaia	USA 1972
1973 – K. J. TAYLOR, Clinton	South Auckland	Ireland 1973
1974 – E. L. HUNT, Palmerston North	Lincoln	Finland 1974
1975 – D. M. BROWN, Temuka	Gore	Canada 1975
1976 – A. J. WALLACE, Cambridge	Marlborough	Sweden 1976
1977 – J. F. THORNTON, Momona – I. W. MILLER, Wendon	Masterton	Holland 1977
1978 – J. F. THORNTON, Momona – N. J. SHEAT, Palmerston	Waimate	Germany 1978
1979 – R. H. WALKER, Edendale – E. L. HUNT, Palmerston North	Taieri	Northern Ireland 1979
1979 – G. S. BAIRD, Wendon – R. H. WALKER, Edendale	Taieri	New Zealand 1980
1980 – A. J. WALLACE, Cambridge – N. J. SHEAT, Palmerston	Lincoln	Ireland 1981
1981 – I. W. MILLER, Wendon – E. L. HUNT, Palmerston North	Palmerston Nth	Tasmania 1982
1982 – J. F. THORNTON, Momona – N. J. SHEAT, Palmerston	Palmerston	Zimbabwe 1983
1983 – N. G. WYMER, Waiuku – G. T. CARTER, Greenpark	Takapau	England 1984
1984 – R. L. JORDAN, Blenheim – B. REDMOND, Rakaia	Timaru	Denmark 1985
1985 – N. J. SHEAT, Palmerston – G. R. GIFFORD, Blenheim	Gore	Canada 1986
1986 – D. M. BROWN, Temuka – B. E. HUNT, Palmerston North	Hinds YFC	Austria 1987
1987 – G. R. GIFFORD, Blenheim – N. G. WYMER, Waiuku	Rotorua	USA 1988
1988 – B. E. SMITH, Lincoln Blenheim – G. T. CARTER, Lincoln	Norway	1989

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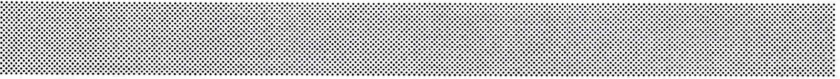
ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, May 12

Vintage Machinery Display
2, 4 and 6 Horse Teams Ploughing
Ken Kingsbury – Land Yachting
Lolly Scramble at conclusion of Ploughing
Craft Display
Dog Trials

Saturday, May 13

2, 4 and 6 Horse Teams Ploughing
Ken Kingsbury – Land Yachting
Lolly Scramble at Conclusion of Ploughing
Wood Chopping Competitions
Craft Display
Needle in the Haystack
Dog Trials
Model Aeroplanes
Merry Go Round
Noddy Train
Ferris Wheel
Horse and Buggy Rides
Static Army Display
Pipe Band
Boons Bread
Police Dog Sniff



— WINNERS OF QUALIFYIN

Plot No. Stubble	Plot No. Grass	Competitor	Address	Qualified at	Points Stubble	Points Grass	TOTAL POINTS
		J. E. GUY	No 1 RD, Hamilton	South Auckland			
		R. E. HENSON	No 9 RD, Palmerston North	Reporoa-Rotorua			
		A. BAKER	No 1 RD, Reporoa	Waikato			
		B. HUNT	No 3 RD, Palmerston North	Takapau			
		R. J. JESSOP	Sandon Road, Feilding	Wairarapa			
		K. STOKES	No 1 RD, Taupiri	Manawatu			
		GRANT FLYNN	No 3 RD, Blenheim	Marlborough			
		G. R. GIFFORD	No 3 RD, Blenheim	North Canterbury			
		A. D. BEGG	No 7 RD Ashburton	Waihora YFC			
		D. M. BROWN	No 26 RD, Temuka	Lincoln			
		I. J. MAW	No 5 RD, Christchurch	Courtenay-Paparua			

G EVENTS FOR 1989 FINAL —

		J. COURT	No 5 RD, Christchurch	Rakaia			
		R. L. JORDAN	No 2 RD, Blenheim	Methven			
		W. J. L. WINTER	No 1 RD, Rangiora	Hinds YFC			
		R. MEHRTENS	No 2 RD, Timaru	Milford-Clandeboyne YFC			
		N. C. COPLAND	No 2 RD, Ashburton	Timaru			
		A. G. REDMOND	No 12 RD, Rakaia	Waitaki			
		J. C. DAVISON	No 14 RD, Rakaia	East Otago			
		R. QUIN	No 12 RD, Rakaia	Taieri			
		S. J. WATT	No 3 RD, Balclutha	South Otago			
		B. M. CHITTOCK	No 1 RD, Gore	Tokomairiro			
		A. J. RUTHERFORD	No 6 RD, Gore	West Otago			
		S. M. ALLISON	No 2 RD, Milton	Waimea Plains			

RULES FOR PLOUGHING

(Grassland and Stubble-land)

Type of Land

Each competitor will be required to plough one plot of grassland (pasture) and one plot of stubble-land.

Note: Grassland ploughing should be regarded as being for a grain crop.

Area to be Ploughed

- (a) In Qualifying Events and also in the New Zealand Ploughing Championship Final, the size of the plot to be ploughed shall measure approximately 2000 square metres (20 metres in width and 100 metres in length) if practicable.
- (b) The draw for plots will take place the day before the Final at the Competitors' Briefing Meeting and there will be one draw for each day.

Time Allowed

- (a) The period of time allowed for the ploughing of the opening split is 20 minutes. In the event that a competitor has not completed his split opening upon the expiry of the 20 minute period he may take extra time to do so. The additional time taken will be recorded by the Head stewards and each minute or part of a minute of extra time will incur a penalty of 1 point.

The time allowed for the ploughing of each plot is 3 hours (that is: 3 hours to plough the stubble-land plot and 3 hours to plough the grassland plot). In the event that a competitor has not completed his plot upon the expiry of the 3 hours period, he may take extra time to do so. The additional time taken will be recorded by the Head Stewards and each minute or part of a minute extra time will incur a penalty of 5 points.

Any time taken by the competitor additional to the

specified 3 hours shall be recorded as from the moment of the given finishing signal or, as the case may be, from the expiration of the period of any extra time already granted until the moment of time when the plough is finally lifted out at the headland scratch mark upon completion of the plot.

The penalties will be formally imposed by the Head Stewards in committee at the conclusion of each days competition.

- (b) The opening "split" must be completed in the first 20 minutes of the contest after which time ploughing will be stopped for 30 minutes whilst the splits are judged.
- (c) Extra time may be requested only in case of a mechanical breakdown or situation beyond the control of the competitor or the organisers. In this case, as well as in the case of waiting on his neighbour, the competitor must contact his Plot Steward and through him receive a decision of the Head Stewards.
- (d) When the tractor front wheels are over the scratch mark a competitor is considered to be ploughing.

Tractors

- (a) The New Zealand Ploughing Championship and Qualifying Events will be limited to wheel tractor ploughing.
- (b) A ploughman must not ride on his or her plough or tractor in such a way as may be considered dangerous by the Stewards. Any direction from the Stewards in this respect must be observed.
- (c) In the Interest of safety, tractors must be driven from the seat.
- (d) All tractors must conform to the Safety Frame Regulations operating at the time.
- (e) A competitor must dismount on the land side of the tractor, otherwise dismounting on the ploughing will be regarded as treading and will be penalised.



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Type of Plough

- (a) All contests will be limited to tractor 2 Furrow mouldboard ploughs until further notice. The ploughs shall be either mounted or trailer models (for ploughing in "lands") and shall be fitted with skimmers. No other extraneous attachments will be allowed other than a flat tailpiece.
- (b) Plough bodies must not be removed or raised out of position or otherwise adjusted in such a way as to make the plough in effect, a single furrow mouldboard plough during the course of the contest. This rule does not preclude using only one body in making the opening and making the finish.
- (c) While the onus is on the contestant to ensure that his plough complies, the organisation conducting the Qualifying Event must arrange for inspection by specially appointed inspectors before the event commences. The New Zealand Ploughing Association will appoint inspectors for the Final.
- (d) A plough approved for a Qualifying Event may not necessarily be accepted for the final.

Type of Ploughing

In grassland (fallow) ploughing the furrows should be firm, well shaped, unbroken, rounded or edged and clearly recognisable throughout the whole length of the plot.

In Stubble (seedbed) ploughing, the furrows should be crumbled, but well shaped and slightly rounded and should be clearly recognisable throughout the whole length of the plot.

In brief, the grassland furrow is a whole slice, while the stubble furrow is a mounded and crumbled furrow slice.

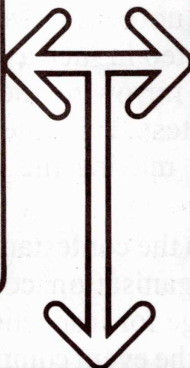
Ploughing Depths

Stubble. — Minimum 17cm; Maximum 19cm.

Grassland. — Minimum 15cm; Maximum 17.5cm

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Cash prize of \$150

Third Prize: Magson Memorial Trophy

Cash prize of \$100

Fourth Prize: \$75

Fifth Prize: \$50

Medallions – Grassland

Gold: Sponsored by W. R. Clough & Sons

Silver: Sponsored by Farmrite Industries Ltd

Bronze: Sponsored by Chamberlain John Deere Ltd

Medallions – Stubble

Gold: Sponsored by Combined Rural Traders

Silver: Sponsored by Ravensdown Fertiliser Co-op

Bronze: Sponsored by NZ Ploughing Assn

W. G. Miller Trophy: Awarded to the competitor gaining highest points who is a financial member of a Young Farmers Club

Fairhall Trophy: Awarded to the highest placed competitor who has not been placed in the first five places up to and including this final (can be won once only)

JUDGES METHOD OF SCORING

(Grassland and Stubble-land)

1. The Opening Split 10

Competitors must make a split opening

(a) Completeness of cutting through of the sod (earth) throughout the whole length and width of the crown.

(b) Straightness and neatness.

(c) No half points to be awarded.

2. Crown (also known as Ridge or Middle) — consisting of the opening and 4 rounds, I.e., 8 furrows each side (can be a 16 or a 15 furrow crown) 30

For judging purposes, only 3 rounds will be judged.

(a) No grass visible.

(b) Straightness.

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(c) Uniformity and closeness of the furrow slices against each other — no high ridge.

(d) The crown furrows must be uniform and level with the rest of the ploughing and present ample soil to produce a seedbed.

3. Weed Control 40

(a) Burying of grass (skimmers must be used).

(b) Completeness of cutting through, or tearing free, of the slices.

(c) No holes.

4. Prospective Seed Bed 40

(a) Uniformity of mould (no holes) and firmness under-foot.

(b) Closeness of packing.

(c) Soil made available.

Finish 40

— comprising the last three rounds and the sole furrow.

(a) Straightness.

(b) Neatness (No loose soil or trash in the furrow).

(c) Weed Control

(d) Narrowness and Shallowness — (so that it is possible to work the Finish into an even tilth leaving no deep hollow in subsequent cultivation).

(e) Closeness and the uniformity of finishing furrow — (the last furrow should be almost a full furrow).

Note:

(1) Only one tractor wheel mark to be visible which shall be on the cast off.

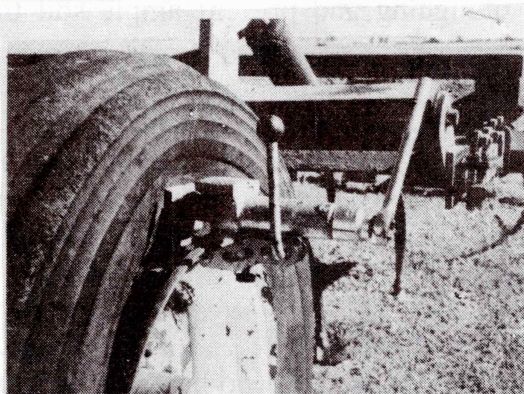
(2) The earth or sole furrow must be laid towards competitor's own crown.

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CONTESTANTS' DATA

S. M. ALLISON, Milton. Sheep and Cropping Farmer. Married with two boys. Ford Tractor, Reid and Gray Plough.

ALLAN BAKER, Reporoa. Sharemilker. Massey Ferguson Tractor, Ransomes Plough.

A. D. BEGG, Elgin. Sheep and Cropping Farmer. Married with two boys and a girl. Ford Tractor and Kverneland Plough.

DAVID. M. BROWN, Temuka. Cropping Farmer and Contractor. Married with 2 girls and one boy. Massey Ferguson Tractor and Kverneland Plough.

BRUCE CHITTOCK, Waikoikoi. Mixed Farming. Married with four children. IH Tractor and Kverneland Plough.

N. C. COPLAND, Rakaia. Mixed Farming. Married with two boys. Nuffield Tractor and Kverneland Plough.

JOHN COURT, 5 RD Christchurch. Cropping Farmer. Married with family of four. Ford Tractor and Kverneland Plough.

JOHN DAVISON, Rakaia. Mixed Farming. Married to Denise. Ford Tractor and Kverneland Plough.

GRANT FLYNN, Blenheim. Farmworker on mixed farm. Married with three children. IH Tractor and Kverneland Plough.

GRAHAM GIFFORD, Blenheim. Mixed Arable Farm. Married with one son and two daughters. Case IH Tractor and Kverneland Plough.

J. E. GUY, Hamilton. Dairy Farmer. Married with a family.

ROSS HENSON, Palmerston North. Mixed Farming. Married with one son and two daughters. Kverneland Plough.

BRYCE HUNT, Palmerston North. Diesel Mechanic. IH Tractor, Klough Plough.

REX JESSOP, Feilding. Agricultural Contractor. Kverneland Plough.

ROGER JORDAN, Blenheim. Mixed Arable Farmer. Married with a daughter and a son. Ford Tractor, Fiskars Plough.

I. J. MAW, Lincoln. Mixed Farming. John Deere Tractor, Kverneland Plough.

BOB MEHRTENS, Claremont. Sheep and Crop Farmer. Married with two boys and a girl. Ford Tractor, Kverneland Plough.

RICHARD QUIN, Highbank. Arable Farmer. Married with two girls and a boy. Ford Tractor, Overum Plough.

A. J. REDMOND, Methven. Mixed Farming. Ford Tractor, Kverneland Plough.

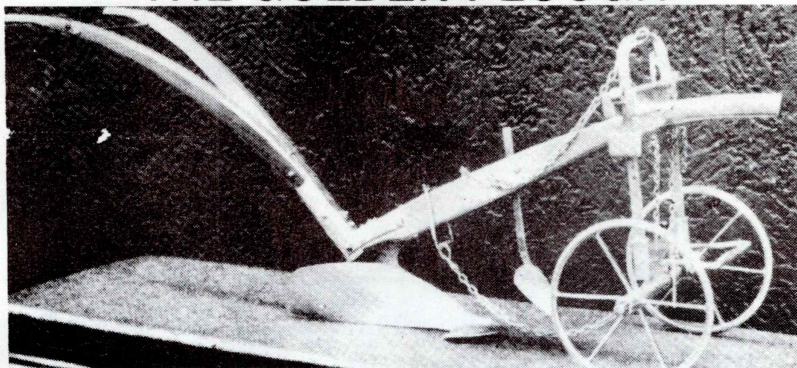
A. J. RUTHERFORD, Gore. Sheep and Crop Farming. Married with a family of four. Nuffield Tractor, Fiskars Plough.

KELVIN STOKES, Taupiri. Dairy and Bull Farmer. Case IH Tractor, Kverneland Plough.

STEVEN J. WATT, Balclutha. Farmworker on cropping farm. MF 35 Tractor, Ransomes Plough.

BILL WINTER, Swannanoa. Mixed Farming. Married with four children. IH Tractor, Fiskars Plough.

THE GOLDEN PLOUGH



When the World championship Ploughing Organisation had been established, and plans were afoot for the first contest to be held, serious consideration had to be given to the exact nature of the trophy to be presented, which was to symbolise world supremacy in ploughing.

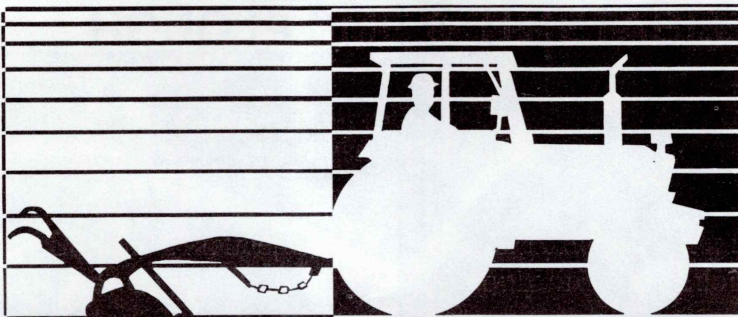
This was no easy matter. Ploughs of radically different designs are used in the different countries which are members of the WPO. Furthermore, it was clear that strict impartiality must be observed towards the farm machinery industry throughout the world, so that no particular type or make should be singled out.

The task was to find a plough which would symbolise the basic operation of food production in all parts of the world — a "basic plough".

Long hours of research into the history of ploughing, and a close study of models in the Science Museum in London led up to the final choice. Nothing could have been more suitable or appropriate — an 18th century Norfolk plough.

The original, of which the Golden Plough is an exact replica, may be seen in the Science Museum. Its history is interesting and demonstrates its suitability as a symbol of ploughing since the "Norfolk Plough" can be regarded as the forerunner of all modern ploughs.

It was the type of implement commonly used in the eastern counties of England in the 18th and 19th centuries. The plough



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has several features which date from the previous century when the influences of the improved Dutch ploughs were spreading across the North Sea.

At that time there was considerable interchange of trade and ideas between the Dutch and the English, and Netherland's influence is still very evident in the easy coast English ports to this day.

Flemish weavers settled in England. Dutchmen came over to assist in the draining of the Fen country and the English were fighting in the Dutch wars. Hence the best ideas of an advanced Dutch agriculture spread quite rapidly along the east coast of England.

The introduction of light dutch ploughs at the beginning of the 17th century enabled an acre a day to be ploughed by one man and two horses. Earlier English ploughs were clumsy tools pulled by 10 or 12 oxen. Three men were needed — one to lead, one to goad the beasts and one to struggle with the plough handles. The distance from the leading ox to the share of the plough was at least 45 feet, and as such a beam would have required an enormous headland, the field boundaries were shaped in the form of an S which enabled the furrows to be taken right up to the hedges.

In 1771 a Norfolk farmer took his ploughmen and a Norfolk wheel plough south into Hampshire and its influence may be seen in the design of the famous Hampshire Patent Iron Plough made in 1807. In this and other ways the influence of the Norfolk Wheel Plough spread widely throughout many parts of Britain.

The Golden Plough was completed in September, 1953, by Garrard and Co (formerly the Goldsmiths' and Silversmiths' Company) in London, the firm which cared for the Crown Jewels and which rebuilt the regalia used by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth at her Coronation.

The inscription on the plough reads "Pax Arva Colat", meaning "Let peace cultivate the fields" a quotation from the works of the Roman poet Tibullus (Book 1).

WORLD CONTEST REPORT

by Graham Gifford

We arrived at Cedar Rapids after a long day flying, it was 6.30 pm with a temperature of 106 degrees.

The next day the three of us plus our host Russell Lackender went to the tractor firms Case IH and Massey Ferguson. They were **50 miles apart**. I was very pleased my tractor was there and it was what I had ordered. They were very helpful and later they checked every day to see if everything was going all right.

On Saturday Kverneland Ploughs arrived. We unloaded them in very heavy rain, worked on the plough for the afternoon. No work on Sundays.

Up early on Monday morning to get the plough ready and left the workshop late afternoon for unofficial practice. Conditions were quite dry. I got my plough running and boards cleaned then called it a day.

It was great to arrive back at the motel to find Noel and Thelma had arrived.

We practised for 2 1/2 days in stubble with all going well. We moved to grass (alfalfa-lucerne) unofficially for the remainder of the week with all going well, but crumbling like stubble.

We moved to Holiday Inn Amana on the 4th and it was great to meet all the ploughmen and their wives again.

Monday was official practice in the grass. It had very little alfalfa, therefore it ploughed very differently to unofficial practice. I had to alter my methods but was satisfied with stubble practice.

Friday dawned fine with very warm temperatures expected. There was a big crowd at the opening ceremony. It was a great honour for me once again to help raise the New Zealand flag.

I was very pleased with my stubble plot overall. I felt it was my finish that let me down.

Saturday was once again a very hot day. The parade to the grass plots for me was a very moving experience with some 110,000- 125,000 people along the route with quite a lot of unknown NZ people waving and calling out.

My grass plot had strips of pure grass, some bare patches, and the remainder alfalfa, therefore I had to work hard all day to match furrows (it crumbled badly in places). Once again bits and pieces let me down.

The victory dinner was held in Iowa City about 30 minutes by bus, a very enjoyable evening. I was very pleased to be placed 11th in stubble and fifth in grass which gave me sixth overall.

Next day the ploughmen and wives were taken on farm visits. On Monday we were all on a bus tour and we ended a wonderful day with a voyage on the Mississippi River including a beautiful dinner. On Tuesday we were farm hosted.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank NZPA, Mobil, co-sponsors, Ivan Weaver, Marlborough Ploughing, Goodyear Tyre Co, Case Ih for their help and support. Shirley and I would like to thank Noel and thelma for their support, also Noel for the time he spent videotaping, Norm and Jan for their great company, Ian Blair for his continuous support and encouragement.

NOW we would like to sincerely thank Alan and Tricia for being such great company on tour. To Alan as manager/coach a special thankyou for his time and expertise. I am sure it helped me in the final placing. Finally, I would like to thank my wife shirley for her great support.

**Thankyou
Graham**

WORLD CONTEST REPORT

by Alan Wallace

The area chosen for the 1988 World Contest known as the Amana Colonies would be one of the most attractive and interesting areas, not only in Iowa, but also in the USA.

The flat land where the contest was held was surrounded by gently rolling country, almost all growing maize and soya beans but with plenty of trees and woodlands.

The Amana Colonies consist of seven villages built to German architecture and the various types of speciality shops in these villages were of tremendous interest to visitors.

The layout of the World Contest and the World Agricultural Expo sites were excellent with 360,000 people visiting during the four days.

On arrival it was disappointing to find the ploughs had not arrived. This was a major setback to our plans as they finally arrived eight and 10 days later. This meant we had to work non-stop to prepare the ploughs, then straight into practice.

This placed tremendous pressure on Graham and Norm and, as their team manager, I take this opportunity to acknowledge the continued effort they put in during this period.

When we arrived it was extremely hot and dry with ground conditions hard following the worst drought for 50 years. On inspection of the plots we found the surface very uneven with ridges and hollows running across the plots due to poor cultivation.

The draw for the stubble was reasonably even with all plots having some undulations. However, Graham and Norman, who drew side by side, had a sharp hollow just in from the headland. This proved difficult to handle and cost them some points at that end.

The stubble ground ploughed well and there were a lot of good plots with not many points separating the top 20.

Although the grassland had received 125mm of rain since the drought, it was still difficult to handle, especially as the

minimum depth was 20cm, the same as the stubble.

The draw for plots in the grassland was not even. One bank consisted of almost all brome grass, another was a combination of brome grass and alfalfa while another had areas of brome grass and areas of straight alfalfa.

Norman was happy with his draw, his plot being an even mixture of both grasses. Graham was not so lucky. His plot varied throughout its length, from pure brome grass to straight alfalfa.

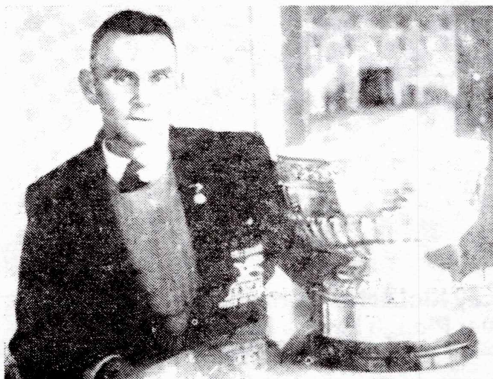
I was astounded to see 90 per cent of ploughmen both during practice and the contest, attempting to plough these conditions and depth with ploughs set at only 12 to 12 1/2 inches wide. The result was ploughing with furrows standing on edge on some plots and nearly all the rest full of holes.

The satisfaction the NZ team gained from the grassland, with Norman having best bodywork and Graham second best was tremendous as no other ploughmen was anywhere near them.

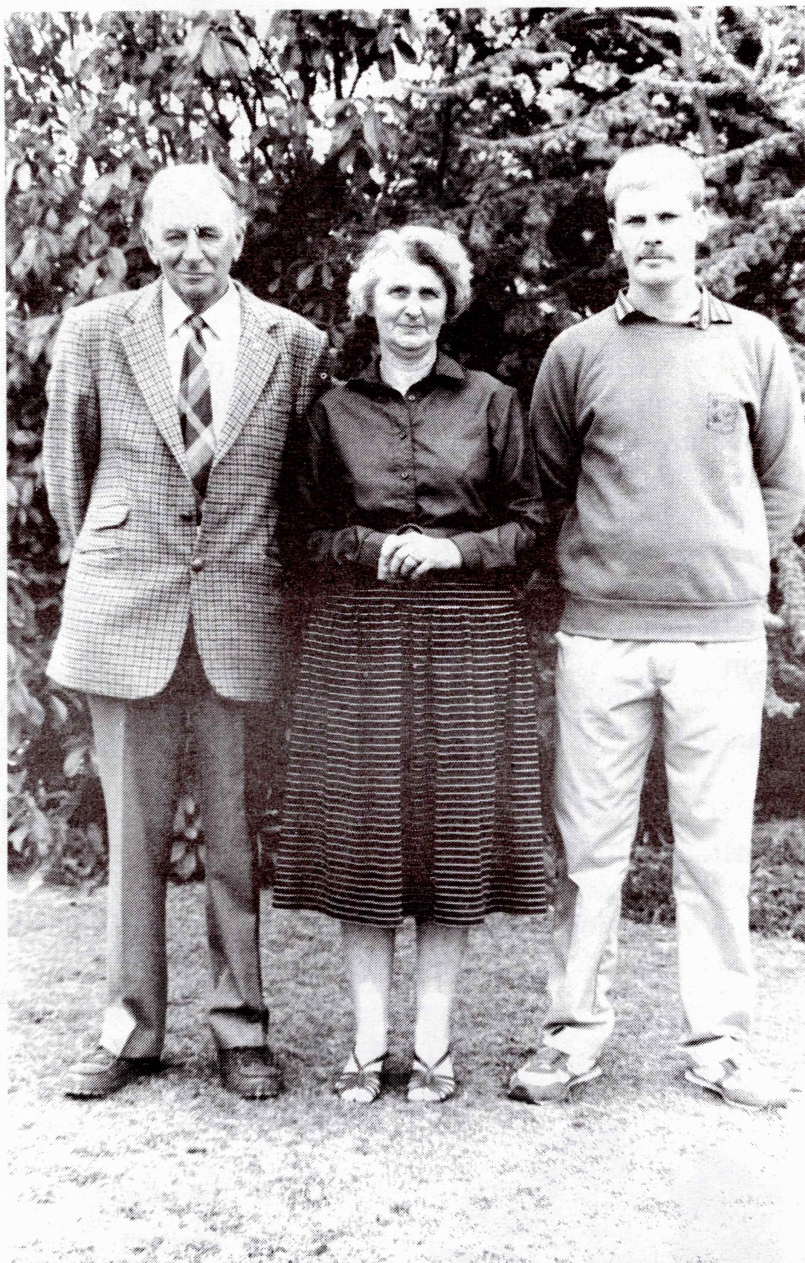
Their ploughing was firm with very few holes, and this was achieved with well set up ploughs, ploughing in Norman's case 14" wide and graham 13 1/2".

It was this type of ploughing that placed them third (Norman) and fifth (Graham) in the grass and eighth and sixth overall.

A very good effort and a result that gave myself as their coach a great deal of satisfaction.



**H. A. Magson
winner Massey
Ferguson Rose Bowl
1961, for runner-up in
World Final**



Owen, Shirley and Lindsay McLachlan, on whose property the 1989 Mobil Silver Plough Final is being held.

MOUNT VUE

THE 1989 Mobil Silver Plough Championship will be held on the property of Owen and Lindsay McLachlan, five km east of Rakaia.

This property, now named Mount Vue was once part of Belle Vue, owned by Owen's father, James Gabriel McLachlan, who purchased the property totalling almost 900 acres (350ha) in 1923. The remainder of Belle Vue is owned by Owen's brother, Leith. In the early days of settlement the farm was once part of Acton.

Until his death in 1960 Mr McLachlan was keenly interested in the Rakaia Ploughing Match Association and was a member from 1923. The annual match was held on his property numerous times.

Mr McLachlan's life long love of Clydesdale horses, which he bred most successfully, gained high awards throughout the South Island at A & P Shows and Ploughing Matches.

He was renowned for his four and six horse teams. The horses remained until 1950 when the last were sold to the Dominion Breweries in favour of the tractor.

Mount Vue is a gently rolling Paparua sandy loam non irrigated farm, where wheat, oats, barley, peas and small seeds are grown and sheep grazed. Recently a small neighbouring property was purchased bringing the total farmed to 275ha.

Owen, Shirley and Lindsay welcome all to Mount Vue and wish the competitors good ploughing and a successful Mobil Silver Plough final.



RAKAIA PLOUGHING MATCH ASSOCIATION 1923

Front row: L. Cordner (hon. treasurer), T. Skevington (president), B. McNamara (chairman), A. Holmes (hon. secretary). Back row: T. Blackley (patron), J. Brown (committee), E. E. Oakley (steward), M. Macale (committee), R. Oakley (patron), C. E. Featherstone (committee), A. J. Magson (patron).

RAKAIA PLOUGHING MATCH ASSOCIATION

Rakaia Ploughing Match Association has, through the ravages of fire, been unfortunate in that it lost all its records when the home of the then secretary, Mr A. Holmes (Sandy), was burnt to the ground in 1944.

In the early days of matches held by the association the ploughs were all drawn by teams of horses, prizes as well as for ploughing, being allocated to best turned out teams as well as best decorated teams. Hours upon hours being spent decorating with sometimes most expensive harness.

Among names which stand out in the writers memory are Cook, McLauchlan, Holmes, Langley, Oakley, Irwin, Stubbs.

In the early 1940s when tractors started to take over, public interest gradually waned until today most ploughing associations find it very difficult to make ends meet.

However, with the advent of the Silver Plough, now sponsored by Mobil Oil, enough interest seems to be revived to keep associations from giving up the battle.

From 1923 till the present day the Rakaia Association has only had four secretaries. Bill Holmes took over from his father Sandy Holmes in 1948 and held the position till 1981.

Bob Johnston, who had been assist for many years, held the position for three years and from 1984 the present secretary John Davison has held the office.

The Rakaia Plough Match Association is thought to have originated in 1878. The following is part of a report taken from the "Ashburton Mail", dated September 14, 1878. —

CHERTSEY PLOUGHING MATCH

The first annual ploughing match at Chertsey came off on Thursday in a paddock belonging to Mr Murphy, within about a mile of the Chertsey railway station.

The day was fair and fine, and if anything inclined to be over- warm. Between 300 and 400 people visited the ground

during the day, and amongst them was a considerable number of the fair sex. Among the visitors were gentlemen from Christchurch, South Rakaia, Ashburton and other centres throughout the provincial district.

The land operated upon by the competitors was a rich brownish soil, with a sprinkling of stones on its surface, but as incisable as butter beneath, and as level as a bowling green in its general appearance. It was virgin soil with a tussock burnt off the surface.

A start was made about half past 10 o'clock, and by 11 o'clock 28 teams were at work in the field, namely, five treble furrows, six double furrows in the champion class, seven double furrows in the second class, four single furrows in the men's class and six single furrows in the boys' class. This made a most respectable turn-out for a first event, and promises still better things for the future.

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VINTAGE PLOUGHING MATCH & DISPLAY

Sunday, March 14

The Mid Canterbury Vintage Machinery Club is running a ploughing match for vintage tractors and ploughs.

It will be held on the same site as the Silver Plough, on the day after the main events.

Competitions ploughing will be available and also plots for beginners who would like to try their hands at ploughing.

One of the feature exhibits will be traction engine ploughing, showing how large scale ploughing was done in the days before tractors replaced teams of horses.

Something a little different will be the Kingsbury Horsepower Tester which the club has restored.

Built in Ashburton in the 1930s by the late Mr Walter Kingsbury to test the horsepower of Lanz Bulldog tractors, the machines uses a variable propellor to create a gradually increasing load for the tractor to drive.

Balancing tractors on a see-saw is another novelty event for drivers. The tractor is driven up a sloping ramp until it reaches the point of balance. The driver tries to hold it there without overbalancing and running down the other end of the ramp.

A tin mill will be in operation threshing grain in the way it was done before headers became common on the farming scene.

In addition to tractors and ploughs, there will be a display of stationary engines. These machines drove all manner of equipment on farms and elsewhere before being overtaken by electric motors and today's lightweight engines. Many of them use quite crude ignition and fuel systems.

Organising this day is the Mid Canterbury Vintage Machinery Club. The club is based in Ashburton has has a



**J. F. Langley's champion six-horse team and
champion mare. Rakaia ploughing match
1930**

E. M. Duncan competing at Rangiora in 1938.



membership of about 40 enthusiasts. Displays are staged at Mid Canterbury shows and regular rallies and ploughing days are held.

Membership is open to all vintage machinery enthusiasts. The secretary is Mr B. Bradley, 17 Brucefield Avenue, Ashburton, telephone 89 769.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Gate Swings Closed, the task is o'er,
The furrows all are deep and straight; The ploughman smiles
in honest pride, And slowly shuts the gate.
Satisfied he wends his way
To his home and evening's rest,
And sleeps the sleep that comes alone
To he who's done his best.
Each task will end, each gate will swing,
Each ploughman will go home to rest,
and furrows left upon the field should say,
"HE PLOUGHED HIS BEST."

Author unknown



NOTES:

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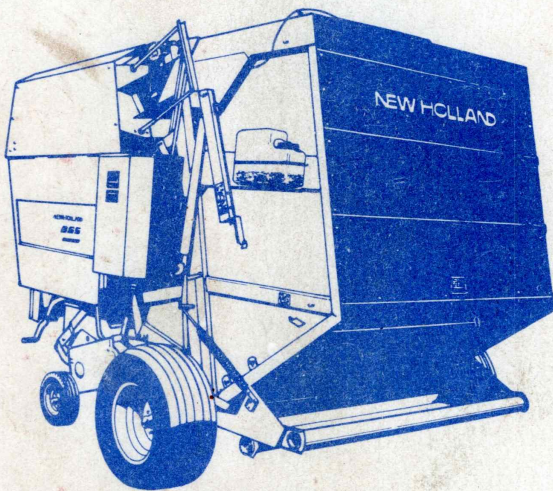
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